

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 7, 9, 19, 23, 29 and 34 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter presented therein.

Please amend Claims 1, 2, 5, 8, 11, 13, 14, 17, 22, 25, 27, 28, and 31-33 as shown below.

1. (Currently Amended) An image verification system comprising an image generation device and a first image verification device,  
  
wherein said image generation device includes:
  - (a) an image data generation unit which generates image data; and
  - (b) a first verification data generation unit which generates first verification data from the image data using ~~first information and not using public key cryptography~~ a common key in common key cryptography, and  
  
wherein said first image verification device includes:
    - (a) a first verification unit which verifies, using the image data, the first verification data and the ~~first information~~ common key, whether the image data is altered ~~or not~~; and
    - (b) a second verification data generation unit which generates second verification data from the image data using ~~second information and a private key in public key cryptography~~ without editing the image data, if the first verification unit verifies that the image data is not altered.

2. (Currently Amended) The image verification system according to claim 1, wherein the first verification data generation unit generates the first verification data from the image data using the ~~first information,~~common key and a first hash function ~~and common key~~ cryptography, and

wherein the second verification data generation unit generates the second verification data from the image data using the ~~second information,~~private key and a second hash function ~~and~~ public key cryptography.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) The image verification system according to claim 1, wherein the second verification data generation unit disables generation of the second verification data, if the first verification unit verifies that the image data is altered.

5. (Currently Amended) The image verification system according to claim 1, wherein the first image verification device includes a memory ~~which stores~~storing both the first ~~information~~common key and the ~~second information~~private key.

6-7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) The image verification system according to claim 1, further comprising a second image verification device,

wherein said second image verification device includes a second verification unit adapted to verify, using the image data, the second verification data and ~~third information~~ a public key corresponding to the ~~second information~~ private key, whether the image data is altered ~~or not~~.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) The image verification system according to claim 8, wherein said second image verification device is a server computer and said first image verification device is a client of the server computer.

11. (Currently Amended) The image verification system according to claim 8, wherein the first verification data generation unit generates the first verification data from the image data using the ~~first information~~ common key and a first hash function ~~and common key cryptography~~, and

wherein the second verification data generation unit generates the second verification data from the image data using the ~~second information~~ private key and a second hash function ~~and public key cryptography~~.

12. (Previously Presented) The image verification system according to claim 1, wherein said image generation device is one of a digital camera, a digital camcorder and a scanner.

13. (Currently Amended) An image verification system comprising:

an image generation device;

a first image verification device; and

a connection device which is connected to said image generation device and said first image verification device,

wherein said image generation device includes:

(a) an image data generation unit which generates image data; and

(b) a first verification data generation unit which generates first verification data from the image data using ~~first information and not using public key cryptography~~ a common key in common key cryptography,

wherein said connection device provides the image data and said first verification data to said first image verification device, and

wherein said first image verification device includes:

(a) a first verification unit which verifies, using the image data, the first verification data and the first information, whether the image data is altered or not; and

(b) a second verification data generation unit which generates second verification data from the image data using ~~second information and a private key in~~ public key cryptography without editing the image data, if the first verification unit verifies that the image data is not altered.

14. (Currently Amended) The image verification system according to claim 13, wherein the first verification data generation unit generates the first verification data from the image data using the ~~first information, common key and~~ a first hash function ~~and common key~~ cryptography, and

wherein the second verification data generation unit generates the second verification data from the image data using the ~~second information, the private key~~ a second hash function ~~and public key cryptography~~.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously Presented) The image verification system according to claim 13, wherein the second verification data generation unit disables generation of the second verification data, if the first verification unit verifies that the image data is altered.

17. (Currently Amended) The image verification system according to claim 13, wherein said first image verification device includes a memory ~~which stores~~storing both the first informationcommon key and the ~~second information~~private key.

18-19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) The image verification system according to claim 13, wherein said first image verification device is an IC card or a storage medium with a microprocessor.

21. (Previously Presented) The image verification system according to claim 13, wherein said first image verification device is a server computer and said connection device is a client of the server computer.

22. (Currently Amended) The image verification system according to claim 13, further comprising a second image verification device, wherein said second image verification device includes a second verification unit adapted to verify, using the image data, the second verification data and ~~third information~~a public key corresponding to the ~~second information~~private key, whether the image data is altered ~~or not~~.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Previously Presented) The image verification system according to claim 22, wherein said second image verification device is a server computer and said connection device is a client of the server computer.

25. (Currently Amended) The image verification system according to claim 22, wherein the first verification data generation unit generates the first verification data from the image data using the ~~first information,~~common key and a first hash function ~~and common key~~ cryptography, and

wherein the second verification data generation unit generates the second verification data from the image data using the ~~second information,~~private key and a second hash function ~~and~~ ~~public key cryptography.~~

26. (Previously Presented) The image verification system according to claim 13, wherein said image generation device is one of a digital camera, a digital camcorder a scanner.

27. (Currently Amended) An image verification device comprising:  
a verification unit which verifies, using image data, first verification data and ~~first information~~a common key in common key cryptography, whether the image data is altered ~~or~~ ~~not~~, the image data and the first verification data being generated in an image generation device, and the first verification data being generated from the image data using the ~~first information and~~ ~~not using public key cryptography~~common key; and

a verification data generation unit which generates second verification data from the image data using ~~second information and a private key in public key cryptography without editing the image data~~, if said verification unit verifies that the image data is not altered.

28. (Currently Amended) The image verification device according to claim 27, wherein the first verification data is generated from the image data using the ~~first information, common key and a first hash function and common key cryptography~~, and

wherein said verification data generation unit generates the second verification data from the image data using the ~~second information, private key and a second hash function and public key cryptography~~.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Previously Presented) The image verification device according to claim 27, wherein said verification data generation unit disables generation of the second verification data, if said verification unit verifies that the image data is altered.

31. (Currently Amended) The image verification device according to claim 27, wherein the image verification device includes a memory ~~which stores~~storing both the ~~first information, common key and the second information, private key~~.



32. (Currently Amended) An image verification method comprising the steps of:

verifying, using image data, first verification data and ~~first information~~ a common key in common key cryptography, whether the image data is altered or not, the image data and the first verification data being generated in an image generation device, and the first verification data being generated from the image data using the ~~first information and not using public key cryptography~~ common key; and

generating second verification data from the image data using ~~second information and a private key in public key cryptography~~ without editing the image data, if it is verified in said verifying step that the image data is not altered.

33. (Currently Amended) The image verification method according to claim 32, wherein the first verification data is generated from the image data using the ~~first information, common key and~~ a first hash function ~~and common key cryptography~~, and

wherein the second verification data is generated from the image data using the ~~second information, public key and~~ a second hash function ~~and public key cryptography~~.

34. (Canceled)

35. (Previously Presented) The image verification method according to claim 32, further comprising the step of:

disabling generation of the second verification data, if it is verified in said verification step that the image data is altered.

36. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium storing a program for implementing the image verification method according to any one of claims 32 to 35.

37-38. (Canceled)